#### SPOONER GONE HENCE

AND THE COTTON BLOSSOMS ARE IN MOURNING

Still the Departed Brother is Supposed to Be Barking With the Angels-The Sunflower Society's Charter Revoked - Insurance on Watermelon Hall.

"Ag'in I hev a painful dooty to perform, said Brother Gardner, as the meeting was declared duly opened. "Word has bin received dat de Hon Lightfoot Spooner, an honorary mem'ber of dis club libin' in Virginny, has gone hence. He was one of de fust honorary members 'leckted to disclub, and only las' week I received a letter from him sayin how glad he would be to be wid us. In his death we has lost a good man, but hev at de same time gained some val'able p inters.

"Brudder Spomer believed in de motto dat honesty am de bes' policy, an' he died pore-so pore dat his assets didn't figger up but twenty-two clothespins an' a stra v bed.

"He loved his naybur as hisself, an



his naybur allus got 95 per cent. de best of de bargain.

"He had charity for all: an' dat was de reason why his chill en allus had to go bar fut an his wife had to dig sassafras root fur coffee.

'His motto was 'Excelsior,' an' when he didn't hev a bile on his leg he had soft con's between his toes. Brudder Spooner was honest, an' darfo' pore; he was consciensous, an' darfo' ragged; he was full of mercy an' sympathy, an' darfo' men called him weak in de top story. I doan' advise any man to be ba , but I wish to keerlessly remark dat dis world doan' expect no man to reverse his paper collahs. If he hasn't any money to pay fur washin' he's expected to steal some new ones an say nuffin 'bout it. Let us now attack de bizness which has assembled us together."

Two months since a charter was granted to the "Sunflower Society," of Mobile, Ala., to organize itself into a branch club and work up to the seventieth degree. For the last month complaints have come in thick and fast. and the Committee on Charters now reported that the following charges had been made, investigated and sus-

 Charging candidates an admission fee of 83, and telling each one that he was entitled to a pension of \$8 per year from the Covernment.

. Compelling candidates to steal chickens and watermeions as part of the ceremony.

Buying for quarts of kerosene at a time, and indulging in other reck-less expends ures calculated to call for

criticism. 4. Putting on patronizing airs to-

wards the police force and fire department of Mobile. The committee recommended that the charter be revoked at once and the

motion was carried by a unanimous Shindig Watkins arose to ask for informat'on. Was Watermelon hall insured for \$2,000?

'She was." answered the president. Brother Watkins thought it was throwing money away. There was no fire in the stove except on Satur ay nights. Refore leaving the hall the janitor always emptied two pails of water over the emters. The kerosene can was always plugged up and placed in the ice-box. He had consulted several electricians, and all had agreed that there was no danger of the building being struck by lightning. He would therefore move that the insurance be cancerled.

Brudder Watkins, yo' war cowhide butes, doan'yo'?" asked the president. "Of co'sh.

"Yo' war 'em kase if yo' was walkin' frew de grass an' a rattlesnake bit yo'



on de leg it wouldn't hurt. Has yo' eber bin bit at?"

"No, sah." "Is yo' eber gwine to be?"

"Can't tell, sah." "'Dat's 'zactly de case, Brudder Wat-kins. Dis hall hain't nebber cotched fiah, but we can't tell when it will, an' we is carryin' dat insurance as a purteckshun. Dat moshun won't be enter-

The secretary then read the following communication:

CHICAGO, Aug. 17. Brother Gardner,

DEAR SIE:-I have been told that you had a method by which you could in-variably select the best and ripest watermelons out of the lot, and that you never got stuck with a green one. If this is true I want to purchase the

Please send me lowest cash figures at once. C. C. WHITE.

"I hasn't got what he wants," replied the President. "I doan' believe no man kin allus pick out de ripest an' de best. When I is feelin' sorter lonely, and life doan' seem to be worf de libin', I goes out an' looks fur a watermillyon. I select one wid a basement to it if possible. I look to see if de stem is black and dead. Den I tunk on dat millyon wid my fist to see if it sounds full of meat. Den I lay him down and press on him wid my knee. that season for the Boston Blues If dar is a dull, holler sound like a against the Roxbury team, he struck smoked ham fallin' off de roof an' strikin' on a sand-pile dat millyon in a game, besides having three hain't ripe. If she gibs out a sound, assistants. In 1885 he comhoweber-a sound like a feller runnin' lickety-te-split across de truck patch wid a dawg mighty clus to his heels an' de owner of dat dawg yellin' to him to take hold-den de chances ar dat you hev got the ripest, reddest, sweetest millyon in dat hull kyar-load what cum up from Gawgia.

The following communication was was then reads

CINCINNATI, Aug. 18, '91. Bro. Gardner.

DEAR SIE: At what season of the year does the Cotton Blossom Club 'call off' or take its annual vacation? lask because I shall be in New York this fall, and I want to take in Watermelon Hall as one of the sights. I shall be greatly disaptoined not to meet you and Sir Isaac walpole and Giveadam Jones to say nothing of Waydown Bebee, Elder Toots, hindig Watkins, and Rear-Admiral Bombo,

HON. RAMBO JOHNSON. "Dis club nebber takes a vacation," replied Brother Gardner, as he looked to see if the thermometer marked 105 degrees at his end of the hall. "Congress kin adjourn and de State Assembly kin go huckleberryin' all summer an nobody seems to keer about it, but de minit dis club lets go things seem to go to pieces all ober de kentry. We shatt be found at de old stand, winter an summer, an bizness will allus be pushed for all it's wuth.'

At this juncture Brother Bradawl Williams arose to make a statement and offer a resolution. He knew that a majority of the members were deeply interested in the theory of Prof. Cellu-White, of New Hampshire, that the planet Venus was gradually approa hing the planet Mars, and that if permitted to collide there would be a shock which would upset the whole country. The rate of approach was only four miles an hour ust now, but would double every week, and by Christmas time the crash would come. He was no alarmist, but here was a question that must be fairly met. He would, therefore, after a resolution that the club open a correspondence with the professor to see what could be done to avert the threatened calamity.

"Brudder Williams, is all yo' back rent paid up?" asked the president as he slowly arose.

'No. sah, not quite all."



Wheneber I find a pusson who is werry much agitated bout what is on fo or five miles up in de sky I invariably diskiver dat he's bin frowin' away moas' of his time down below. Dat resolushun is outer order, an' yo' has had a mighty narrer escape from bein fined \$60,000. We will now adjourn to de aunty-room an' encircle nine large watermillyons purvided fur de auspishus occashun an' den

#### Getting Rid of a Notsance.

First Little Bird-"Here comes a boy with a gun. Shall we by away? Second Lattle Bird-"No. He'd only follow us. "First Little Bird-"But what shall

we do?

Second Little Bird-"Sit here and let him fire at us. By and by he will shoot off a finger or something and go home."

#### On the Scent.

First Detective (Mysteriously) - "I scent a murder.' Detective (excitedly)second Where?"

First Detective (solemnly)-"Smell that trunk Fassenger (sauntering up)-"You

like Limpurger, ch? Zo do I. Dot s why I dake some home mit me."

#### Cut Out.

coolness, Clara-I mean Miss Beauty? A few days ago you allowed me to infer that I had at last won your favor and perhaps-

Newport Belle- That will do, Mr. De Cutter. A new yacht has arrived in the harbor, and it is ten feet longer

### Those Beautiful Antiers.

Eastern Sportsman (with full assortment of dogs, guns, etc.)-"I hear that over a thousand elk are killed in this region every year. What do you do with the antlers?"

Western Hunter-"Sell 'em to Eastern hunters on their way home."

#### Shakespeare Nowhere.

First Theater-Goer-"How was the new play last night?" Second Theater-Goer-"Oh, its grand! Most realistic dramatic success of the

age. They've got a real hydrant on

the stage-spouts real water. Yought

#### t' see it. Learning by Experience.

Tramp-"Please, mum, I'd like some cold vittles fer my dog."

Housekeeper-"Dog! Why do you go tramping through the country with a big brute like that at your heels?" Tramp-"To pertect my heels from other dogs, mum."

#### RIGHT FIELDER M'CARTHY.

The Well-Known Player of the St. Louis Browns.

Thomas F. McCarthy is the wellknown right fielder of the St. Louis Browns, of the American association. He was born July 24, 1864, at Boston, Mass., and first played professionally in 1884, when he was a member of the team that represented his native city in the Union association. Pitching out no fewer than nineteen men menced the season with the Boston team, of the National League, distinguishing himself by putting out ten men at left field and assisting three times in the opening games on Fast Day. McCarthy played in the outfield for the Bostons and took part in fort championship games before he was r -leased, and he then finished the seas n with the Haverhill club of the New England League. While playing with the Haverhill team against the Lawrence club that season he made five hits, with a total of eleven in five times at the bat. McCarthy opened in 1886 with the Providence team of the Eastern League: then transferred his services to the Brockton club, of the New England League, and concluded the season with the Philadelphia club, of t e National League. He remained with the last mentioned club during the early part of the season of 1887, taking part as an outfielder in eighteen of its championship games before he was released. when he joined the Oshkosh club, with which he finished the season. clever outfielding and hard hitting helped materially the Oshkosh team in winning the championship of the Northwestern League in 1887. A remarkable batting feat of seven successive safe hits in seven times at the bat was credited to him in a championship game that season, Handiboe, of the Eau Claire Club being the suffering pitcher. McCarthy not only led the Oshkosh team in batting, but ranked fifth in that respect in the official averages of the Northwestern League. Metarthy in 1888 was engaged as an outfielder by the St. Louis Brown . with which team he has since remamed, taking part in upwards of five hundred charapiouship contests. During these four seasons McCarthy has greatly distinguished himself in batting, tase running and outfielding, helping the St. Louis team to win the championship of the american Association in 1888, and ranking high in its official batting averages each year. As a run getter he ranks as one of the best in the pro-



fession, his quickness in completing the circuit being remarkable. also a splendid outnelder and dan creditably fill almost any infield position, as has been shown this season, In 1890 McCarthy captained the St. Louis Browns, and the team finished a good third in the race for the pennant of the American Association, although it was much weakened by the secession of Comiskey, O'Neil, Boyle, Robinson, King and Lath m. He has greatly distinguished himself this season.

#### Village of Romances.

Sanborn is a quaint little New York village and is swept by the placid waters of the Hudson, which at that point narrows down to a modern goodsized creek. The place has been prolific with queer happenings, strange romances and everything else that introduces the odd phase of human life. latest strange case developed is of the Enoch Arden order.

In 1860 Thomas Tisdale, with a wife and four children, lived in a Canadian village. This year he was engaged as escort to a fishing party to Georgian Bay, and when the party returned Tisdale was reported as having left them in a row boat, and nothing was heard from him since. It was presumed that he was lost among the many islands in the bay and drowned. After several years, as Tisdale did not return to his family, Mrs. Tisdale accepted the theory of his death and married William Davis. In about four years the second Mr. De Cutter-"Why this sudden husband died, and the widow married a Mr. Copeland, of Tonawanda. A few days ago Tisdale appeared at Sanborn, and Mrs. Copeland being sent for identified him as her long-missing first husband. Present indications are that the third husband will have to relinquish his wife and that she will join her fortunes with Tisdale.

#### Squaws Fond of Style.

John O. Doyle, who has charge of a reservation in the Indian Territory, says the Indian women are as great sticklers for fashion as any dame of a Parisian boulevard. This year nothing but a pea-green umbrella or parasol will suit the squaws, and the bucks will have nothing but blue umbrellas. Every Indian squaw and buck is so equipped, and the effect is quite bril-Last year nothing but red, white and blue umbrellas were in requisition, and this year the Indian traders got in a big supply of the variegated sun protectors, but the Indians would not have them and green and blue had to be supplied as the fashionable colors. It is the same way as to calicoes. One season one print prevails and a whole tribe is dressed in it, the men shirted and the women petticoated and the next season the same gaudy colors and figures are looked upon with disgust.

Each season affords tears or laughter, as we

### HEDGED ABOUT BY A PROSCRIP-

I am not siming to convince mental babies, as indeed that would be fruitless without the nee essary cultured intellect that makes logic applicable. Force, brilliancy and originality even are no weapons to attack a slave w: h. For man; centuries the medical art was hedged about by a proscriptive taboo which it, as yet, has not survived. The brand for murdering truth is the penalty of imbecility stamped upon the mental caliber of the average individual-in relation to medicine and medicine men. The sun of the nineteenth century has not yet dawned upon his intellectual horizon. He, together with his ideal medicine man, still hibernates in the good old days of the dark ages, when it was bad form to be inquisitive. He still "believes" in bleeding blistering, vomiting, purging and sweating. He loves copious doses of horse medicine. He delights in assafertida and calomel and carboile acid. They are considered indispensable; no well-regulated family, with pigmy intellects and abdomidal development, considers itself safe without those family lares. These I do not wish to convert, they are the Rip Van Winkles that will continue to slumber through this and probably through the next century. They play no role in the world's history. They live: they die. No monument marks their forgotten sepuicher. Humanity was not enriched by their entrance, it has lost nothing by their exit. They are drift wood on the shores of time, and float with the ebb and tide of opinions they have inherited from their anthropomorphic ancestry. No, it is not to these I wish to address myself, but to the thinking ones, whom a thought does not throw into an epileptic paroxysm; who love knowledge for its own sake, who are willing to investigate the truth or faisity of any proposition, and, once convinced, will stand by it through all the grimaces of a chattering and delayed civilization. To these—not the chatterers, but the thinkers—I commend the Histogenetic System for investigation, and will elucidate with pleasure any question not sufficiently clear in book, which will be sent free to any address. blistering, vomiting, purging and sweating. He sent free to any address.

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